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18 January 1966

**ATTENTION :**

25X1A

**SUBJECT : OXCART Pilot Life Raft**

[redacted] asked me to get in touch with you to request that you reconfigure the life raft release system presently employed by OXCART pilots. As we understand it, the life raft is deployed and inflated prior to the pilot's contact with the surface. [redacted] would like to rearrange this system, whereby the pilot has an option either prior to take-off or prior to ejection. It is understandable that if he is over water it would be a good idea to have the life raft preinflated prior to splash. However, if he is over land and feels that he has a chance to use the life raft, it is obvious he would rather carry it deflated. Will you look into the possibilities of this arrangement and notify myself and [redacted] earliest.

25X1A

SIGNED

**Chief, Intelligence Division  
Office of Special Activities**

25X1A

ID/OSA/ [redacted] nlm (18 Jan 66)

#1 - D/TECH/OSA  
#2 - D/FA/OSA  
#3 - OGC/OSA  
#4 - ID/OSA  
#5 - RB/OSA

**SECRET**

**GROUP 1**  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

25X1